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SEARLES V. WOOD'S  
"MONOGRAPH OF THE CRAG MOLLUSCA"  
(1848-1882),  
WITH NOTES ON THE GENERIC NAME  
*ASTARTELLA*

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Abstract. Searles V. Wood's "Monograph of the Crag Mollusca" was issued in parts and the exact publication dates have not been generally known. As a result, some taxa have been misdated in the subsequent literature. We give the dates of publication for the individual parts, note the various titles used for this work, and establish the status of *Astartella* Wood 1853.

## INTRODUCTION

Wood's "Monograph of the Crag Mollusca" constitutes an early, important, and comprehensive monograph of the Neogene mollusks of the northeastern Atlantic. It synthesized much of the then available knowledge and provided

extensive descriptions and figures of numerous taxa, many of them new. Additionally, this work serves as a valuable basis for comparison with other fossil and Recent faunas. Researchers, however, might encounter difficulties in accurately citing and dating the various portions of this work for which reason we present the following discussion.

Copies of Wood's complete work in the libraries of the first author and the Museum of Comparative Zoology contain bound-in printed instructions for binding, which were produced in 1874 and 1879 and which give the publication dates of each part. All parts were issued by the Palaeontographical Society whose publications were, at that time, designated as "annual volumes". The actual publication dates are seldom shown on the covers. Wood designated the various parts of his monograph as "volumes" and these should not be confused with the differently numbered Society "volumes".

The following data on publication dates are taken from the aforementioned printed "directions to the binder" except in the case of the final part (1882). The title of Wood's work, which will be discussed later, is listed here simply as a "A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca".

Wood, Searles V., 1848-82. *A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca*. Palaeontographical Society, London.

Volume I. Univalves. Pp. v-xii, 1-209, pls. I-XXI [March, 1848].

Volume II. Bivalves. Pp. 1-150, pls. I-XII [June, 1851]. Pp. 151-216, pls. XIII-XX [December, 1853]. Pp. 217-342, pls. XXI-XXXI [February, 1857]. [note], Pp. 1-2 [March, 1861].

Volume III. Supplement, Univalves. With the Geology of the Crag District. Pp. i-xxxii, 1-99, Map of Crag District, pls. I-VII (Pp. ii-xxxii and map authored by S. V. Wood, junior and F. W. Harmer). [June, 1872].

Supplement, Bivalves. Pp. 99-231, pls. VIII-XI and Addendum Plate. [February, 1874].

Volume IV. Second Supplement. Title page; preface; Pp. 1-58, pls. I-VI. [May, 1879].

Third Supplement (edited by his son, Searles V. Wood [junior]). Title Page; Preface; Pp. 1-24, pl. I. [June 1882].

The apparent duplication of page 99 in Volume III is not an error. Publication of pages 1-99 resulted in the verso of page 99 as being blank. When the next part was published, page 99 was reprinted as the recto of page 100, and the instructions to binders point out that the original page 99 is to be removed and destroyed. The instructions also call for removal of the title page for Volume II issued in the Society volume for 1855 and substitution of a replacement title page provided in the volume for 1873.

The title varied with different issues. The original title of Volume I was "A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca, or, descriptions of shells from the Middle and Upper Tertiaries of the East of England". A revised title page was issued at an unknown later date with the title rendered as "A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca, with descriptions of shells from the Upper Tertiaries of the British Isles".

The original title page for Volume II is "A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca, with descriptions of shells from the Upper Tertiaries of the British Isles"; it bears the dating 1850-1856. A second or replacement title page, issued in 1874, carries the same title but has the dating 1851-1861.

The title of Volume III is "Supplement to the Monograph of the Crag Mollusca, with descriptions of shells from the Upper Tertiaries of the East of England". The title of Volume IV is identical to that of Volume III except for being the "Second Supplement to ...". The posthumous Third Supplement is entitled "Third Supplement to the Crag Mollusca, comprising Testacea from the Upper Tertiaries of the East of England."

The change of title is explained by Wood (1857:302) who stated: "When the present work was begun, I had proposed to call it simply 'A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca;' but this title had to be submitted to the Council of the Palaeontogra-

phical Society for their approval, when the term 'Crag' was thought by some of the members of that body to be of too local or technical significance, and would not be fully understood by foreign geologists; and the explanatory addition of 'Descriptions of Shells from the Middle and Upper Tertiaries of England' was then suggested, and acceded to by myself. A more complete examination of these Deposits, during the progress of the work, has induced me to believe the term 'Middle' to have been incorrectly introduced, there being no remains of a Formation in Great Britain referable to that Period. . . ; it is therefore requested to erase the words Middle and Miocene from the title-pages and other parts of the work formerly given, as I believe the Formations I have been attempting to illustrate belong with more propriety to the Upper Tertiaries." Another note about the title (Wood, 1857: 326) seems to explain the change from the "East of England" to "the British Isles".

It appears that due to the varied titles used that it would be advantageous to cite the work simply by Wood's original title, "A Monograph of the Crag Mollusca", as this is how it has been referred to orally and in print by succeeding generations of paleontologists.

Volume II, stated to be on bivalves, also contains an appendix (pp. 303-328) in which Cephalopoda and Gastropoda are treated. The two page "note", which is part of Volume II, appeared in the Society Volume for the year 1858 and bears a printed date of May, 1860 (probably the date written) and was actually published, *vide* the "instructions to binders", in March, 1861. This note concerns Wood's misidentification of an *Anomia* valve as an *Aplysia*, an error he wished to correct immediately.

Various references have been consulted to determine if the correct publication dates have usually been cited for this work. Only one (Anderson, 1964:365) has been located, although a few authors seem to have arrived at the correct

dates for some taxa. Radwin & Coan (1976) referred to Wenz (1941[sic]:1594) and the "Cat. Lib. Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist. 4:1502" for dating. Both of these references give the date of Volume II as "1850-56" and Volume III as "1872-74", and the dates for the various parts of these volumes are not given. Ruhoff (1980:118) cited only "Part II" (i.e., Volume II) with the composite date of 1850-1856, this volume being the only portion of the work within the 1850-1870 time frame dealt with by her. However, this resulted in misdating of numerous taxa by Ruhoff, and she also omitted many others. Some of these omissions are attributable to the fact that Wood earlier published a series of papers (Wood, 1840-42) listing Crag species in which he described some new species and also introduced a number of manuscript names. These manuscript names were cited in synonymy when the species were actually described and Ruhoff evidently assumed that the names had been validly proposed earlier.

The nude names published in 1840-42 present nomenclatural problems since many were used and illustrated by other authors between their first appearance as *nomina nude* and their much later validation by Wood. Although the nude names are listed as such by Sherborn (1922-33), he does not list many of the later validations.

#### Note on the generic name *Astartella*

Three independent usages of the nomen *Astartella* occur in the literature. These homonyms are:

*Astartella* Wood, 1853:170 (introduced as a junior synonym, see text), *non* Hall and Whitney, 1858 (Mollusca) *nec* Filatova, 1957 (Mollusca).

*Astartella* Hall in Hall and Whitney, 1858:715 (type species, by monotypy, *Astartella vera* Hall in Hall and Whitney, 1858), *non* Wood, 1853 (Mollusca) *nec* Filatova, 1858 (Mollusca).

*Astartella* Filatova, 1957:298 (type species, by monotypy, *Astarte ioani* Filatova, 1957), replaced by *Filatovaella* Merklin, 1959:4671, new name for *Astartella* Filatova, 1957 non Wood, 1853 (Mollusca) nec Hall in Hall and Whitney, 1858 (Mollusca).

The introduction by Wood (1853:170) of the name *Astartella* has been completely overlooked and consists of the earliest usage of this nomen. To obviate any future difficulties involving this name and to preserve *Astartella* Hall in Hall and Whitney, 1858, which is widely used in the paleontological literature (Chavan, 1969; Shimer and Shrock, 1944), we adopt the view that Wood introduced *Astartella* as a junior synonym.

Wood's (1853:170) introduction of the name is made in a discussion of *Erycinella* Conrad, 1845 and is ambiguous in the extreme. He resurrected his own manuscript name by which a shell was known to him in his private collection; the text is so garbled with the mention of several different generic names, some accompanied by question marks, that one cannot be certain to what *Astartella* pertains. He stated that he "would now lay claim [to the name *Astartella*], provided no regular diagnosis has previously been given to the one Mr. Conrad has employed [*i.e.*, for *Erycinella* Conrad]". Further, no type-species is designated.

Arguments could be made for Wood's usage being either a conditional proposal of the name (see I.C.Z.N. Articles 11(d)(i) and 15) or an introduction as a junior synonym (I.C.Z.N. Article 11(e)). The former interpretation would make the nomen available and in the latter interpretation it would be unavailable.

In accordance with I.C.Z.N. Article 24, the Principle of the First Reviser, we take the position that Wood introduced the name *Astartella* as a junior synonym of *Erycinella* Conrad. Under I.C.Z.N. Article 11(e) it is therefore not an available



name and does not compete in homonymy with any later usage of *Astartella*.

We appreciate critical readings of the manuscript by Mr. Alan R. Kabat and Mr. Richard I. Johnson, who also allowed us to examine his personal copy of Wood.

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